

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Re-examination and favorable reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following comments are respectfully requested.

Claims 11 - 24 are pending in the application. Currently, claims 11 - 19 and claims 20 - 24 stand objected to.

By the present amendment, claims 16 and 22 have been cancelled without prejudice and claim 20 has been amended to include the subject matter of former claim 22.

In the office action mailed February 20, 2008, the sole objection raised by the Examiner had to do with claims 20 - 24 allegedly being duplicates of claims 11, 13, 16, 18, and 19. By the present amendment, claim 16 has been cancelled. Further, claim 20 has been amended to include the subject matter of former claim 22 (which is identical in substance to now cancelled claim 16). It is submitted that claim 20 now covers subject matter which is not covered by allowed claims 11 - 15 and 17 - 19 by virtue of the cancellation of claim 16 and can not be a duplicate of any of the allowed claims. Claim 20 has a different scope than any other claim in the application. Claim 20 at a minimum is allowable for the same reasons as claim 11.

The instant application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully solicited.

The instant amendment should be entered since it does not raise any new issue which requires further consideration and/or search on the part of the Examiner. Claim 20 contains the subject matter which led to the allowance of claim 11. Still further, the instant amendment does not raise any issue of new matter. Entry is therefore proper.

Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, the

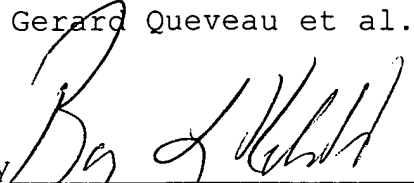
Examiner is hereby invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fee is believed to be due as a result of this response. If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerard Queveau et al.

By


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I, Nancy Reid, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on May 7, 2008.

